

The Sun

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Mr. Gonger.

In accepting the resignation of the Hon. EDWIN HUBB CONGER of Iowa as Ambassador to Mexico the President expressed his cordial approval of the work performed by Mr. CONGER in China, as formerly in Brazil. "We observe a disposition to attach significance to the omission of Mexico in Mr. CONGER's reference to Mr. CONGER's diplomatic usefulness, as if the retiring Ambassador had failed to give satisfaction in his latest employment.

There is no reason to suppose that the President meant anything of the sort. Mr. CONGER's career at the city of Mexico has been extremely brief, and, unattended, so far as is publicly known, by any incident out of the ordinary routine of relations with a friendly neighbor. There is nothing to mark or distinguish his sojourn in Mexico or to call for special mention.

On the other hand, Mr. CONGER's first term as Minister to Brazil coincided with the inception of the revolutionary disturbance in that country which culminated in the events of 1893 and 1894. He had been superseded by a Democrat at the time of the attack on the American vessels at Rio de Janeiro, and the energetic action of Admiral BENTHAM for their protection; but before he left Brazil the intervention had become one requiring tact, judgment and firmness on the part of the American representative. Mr. CONGER performed his duties so well that President McKinley sent him back to Rio in 1897.

Then, again, when transferred early in 1898 to Pekin, Mr. CONGER encountered one of the most unusual and difficult situations with which any diplomat ever had to deal. His bearing throughout the Boxer troubles and the memorable siege of the legations commanded the respect not only of Americans but also of foreign observers. His name will always be connected with the stirring events which engaged the anxious interest of the whole civilized world.

It was quite natural that in reviewing Mr. CONGER's career in diplomacy the President's thoughts should rest on Brazil and China rather than on Mexico. We do not believe that there was on his part the slightest intention to disparage the Ambassador's performances in the last named country.

For a statesman of not very large pattern, Mr. CONGER has done well, and it cannot be denied that he has seen some exciting and important service.

Minister Quesada on Cuban Finance.

One of the duties of the Cuban Minister in Washington is to present in the most favorable aspect the acts of the Government which sent him there. Señor GONZALO DE QUESADA is evidently disturbed by our view of the fiscal affairs of his country. He has essayed a defense in which he covers the main issue with a mass of statistics of national prosperity. We give our heartiest congratulations to the people of Cuba for their splendid showing in the department of industrial and commercial activity.

We infer that Minister QUESADA's statistics are used at this time for the purpose of proving Cuba's financial ability to do that which she is now planning to do in the matter of the pay of her army. Cuba's immediate prosperity and her present treasury balance are only incidental to the main question to which we have called attention. Her immediate prosperity is due to the prevailing abnormal price of sugar. Two years ago the United States bought a little more than 1,000,000 tons of Cuban sugar for \$42,697,546. Last year our importation of 900,000 tons cost us \$64,366,338. Cuba is for a time the beneficiary of world market conditions.

Her present treasury surplus is also susceptible of explanation. By Señor QUESADA's own figures, the revenues of the island last year were \$30,073,756.19. In all this is an increase of more than \$7,500,000 over the receipts of the preceding year, and an increase of about \$12,000,000 over 1902. It exceeds the sum annually drawn from Cuban pockets during the last ten years of Spanish government, and constitutes a very plump little burden for a nation of 1,700,000 people. In view of the fact that the budget submitted by the executive last November, and not yet acted on by the Congress, called for a little less than \$20,000,000, it is no wonder that Cuba has some money in her treasury at the present time. As budgets are supposed to be in anticipation of necessary expenditures, it would appear that the Cuban people are bearing a tax nearly 50 per cent. greater than the needs of their Government.

This matter has some bearing upon the main issue, but is really aside from it. The question is whether Cuba, simply because she has a large immediate surplus through overtaxation, is warranted in an indefinite bond issue, which under the bill is also an unlimited issue, in violation of her own Constitution, the Platt Amendment to that Constitution and the treaty which makes the terms of that appendix permanently binding on the insular Government. Cuba may be solvent and honest to-day, but that is no guarantee of solvency and honesty in days to come.

The matter is clearly open to consid-

eration. Article IV. of the Treaty of July, 1904, declares the ratification of "all acts of the United States during its military occupancy." The promulgation of the Cuban Constitution, including the Platt Amendment, was one of those acts. The Constitution for which the United States becomes responsible by virtue of this promulgation declares, as we have already quoted, that in contracting loans the Cuban Congress "shall be under the obligation of deciding what permanent revenues shall be necessary for the payment of the interest and redemption thereof," and that "all action relating to loans shall require two-thirds of the vote of the total number of the members of each legislative body." The Cuban army bill, just passed, makes no provision whatever for "permanent revenues." When the bill passed the House only 31 out of 60 members were present, a bare quorum, and only a majority of those present voted for the bill. When it passed the Senate only 16 of the 24 members of that body were present. Only 12 voted in favor of it.

On the ground on which evasion is attempted it is that the obligation constitutes an "interior debt" with which the United States has nothing to do. We have already shown that both the treaty and the Platt Amendment, in definite terms, cover the assumption or contraction of "any public debt" except under specified conditions. We have also shown President PALMA's admission (see page 13 of official copy of message of November, 1904) that Article II. of the appendix to the Constitution, which is the same as Article II. of the treaty of July, 1904, covers both interior and exterior loans. Moreover, the bill as passed fixes no limit to the recognition of obligations and no limit to the bonds which may be issued under it. The present Congress may issue twenty, thirty or forty million dollars. Its successor, or some one of its successors, may use the bill as the basis for an issue of \$100,000,000 of so called interior bonds. Aside from the questionable legality of its passage, the bill itself is pernicious and dangerous to Cuba and to the United States.

If Cuba will pass a bill in accordance with the specific provisions of her Constitution, by a "two-thirds vote of the total number of the members of each legislative body," and will make therein due provision for "permanent revenues" for the payment of interest and "a reasonable sinking fund provision," we shall have nothing more to say. The claim that 5 per cent. coupon bonds payable to bearer, which may be sold to Englishman, German, Frenchman or Japanese, do not constitute a national debt within the scope of either Constitution or treaty is almost childish.

We want no Santo Domingo or Venezuela within ninety miles of our shores. An unlimited "interior debt" in the form of 5 per cent. bonds "payable to bearer" is easily converted into an unlimited foreign obligation collectable by foreign navies. Such an obligation, unsupported by lawful provision for interest payment and final liquidation, smacks too strongly of unpleasant messes in which we are already involved.

The Population of New York.

It is expected that the late census of the State of New York will enumerate a total population of about 7,900,000, of which about four millions, or more than half, are in this city. Moreover, the gain in the population of the State since 1900 will probably be shown to have been in this city wholly, for that gain seems to have been only about equal to the increase in the city.

New York will continue to lead all the States in population. It has a population greater by more than two millions than the aggregate number of inhabitants in all the six New England States. The aggregate population of the whole eleven States of the old Southern Confederacy is only about twice as great. Canada, adjoining New York to the north, in all its provinces has a population which is about two millions less.

At the beginning of the last century, however, New York was only third in population among the States, Virginia holding the first place with 880,200, Pennsylvania second, with 602,365, and New York, 589,051. In 1810 it had gone ahead of Pennsylvania, but was still behind Virginia, and not until 1820 did it get the first place in the Union in population, which it has since held.

The building of the Erie Canal gave New York a great impetus, and then came the foreign immigration, so that between 1830 and 1880 its population more than doubled. Pennsylvania continued to hold the second place, but by 1880 the population of Virginia was much less than half that of New York, and in 1900 only about a quarter.

The preponderance of the city of New York in the population of the State is steadily increasing, so that when the next State census shall be taken, in 1915, it is likely to be toward two-thirds of the whole. About four-fifths of the population of the city in 1900 was of foreign birth or parentage, and in the five years since then this percentage must have increased very considerably.

Leaving out the accessions by immigration, the natural increase of the foreign elements is much greater than that of the native. Much less than a fifth of the births officially reported by the Health Department in Manhattan last year were of native parents, and among these parents were included a very great part who are of comparatively recent alien extraction, descendants of immigrants who settled here in the middle of the last century. Relatively to their numbers, the birth rate among the Jews was the highest, with the Italians a close second. Among the Jews alone this natural increase last year was about a half greater than among the native born, including, as we have said, those of comparatively recent foreign descent.

Out of toward sixty thousand births in Manhattan last year something more than 28 per cent. were children of Jews and about 20 per cent. of Italians.

These are very significant statistics, and the more so because the birth rate among the Irish and Germans is much less. The children born last year of Irish and German parents were more than

ten thousand less than those of Jewish parentage and about five thousand less than the Italian.

The birth statistics generally, however, indicate that in Manhattan there is no reason to deplore "race suicide."

Police Outrages in England.

There is some satisfaction in knowing that stupid and wanton arrests are made by the police elsewhere than in American cities. But even this consolation is discounted by their results to the offending officers in less free and easy lands than ours.

In London *Truth* of August 3 a couple of paragraphs are devoted to a case in point. It came to light through an action for damages brought in a county court at Birkenhead, and the offenders were the New Brighton police. These are the facts as *Truth* tells them:

"The action was brought by two young ladies against a constable and inspector of the county constabulary stationed at Wallasey for damages for false imprisonment. The two ladies, it appeared, were members of a party which had picked on the sandhills. Another member of the party was arrested for trespassing on adjoining golf links, and the ladies accompanied him to the police station in order to protest against the action of the constable. On arrival at the police station they were at first kept outside, but were ultimately admitted and told they must consider themselves under arrest. They were searched and placed in the cells, where they were detained for the night, although their friends offered bail, and were taken next morning to the police court in custody of a policeman. The charge against them was for resisting a constable in the execution of his duty, and it was at once dismissed. The result of the County Court action was that the police withdrew all imputations upon the plaintiffs, and agreed to a verdict against them for ten guineas and costs in each case."

Truth goes on to say that the police were lucky in getting off so cheaply. "I fancy if the matter had been left to a jury," it remarks, "they would have had to pay much more dearly for such outrageous interference with the liberty of the subject." It hopes that the matter will not be allowed to drop with such petty compensation to the injured persons, and actually takes the ground that, together with one or two other aggressions on the self-respect of mere private individuals, the incident warrants a general overhauling of the New Brighton force.

One can imagine the astonishment of a New York policeman if he found himself compelled to pay damages—even trivial damages—for unwarranted interference with the liberty of a citizen. So callous are we on this subject that it is only rarely that a policeman is even transferred for insulting conduct toward citizens or for unjustifiable arrests. Even cases of brutal clubbing attract hardly more than passing notice. Once or twice recently when City Magistrates forced such matters upon the public attention they found at least some of the superiors of the accused officers occupying the distinct position that the policeman could do no wrong and that the clubbed man had either deserved what he got or had willfully clubbed himself to get the policeman into trouble.

There are two reasons why police outrages can never become customary in England. One is that the combative British cannot be made a patient victim. He cannot be made easy or think that the easiest way is the best. If a weakling in England should take the position frankly stated by a young man in the Tombs police court, this city, a few weeks ago, that he would not prosecute an alleged clubber because if he did he'd be driven out of the city, he would find scores of sturdier characters ready to make his grievance their personal affair. They would do so from selfish motives, if no other; they might be the next victims if it abuses went unpunished. Letters would be written to the *Times*, questions would be asked of the Home Secretary on the floor of the House of Commons, "LABBY" would write biting paragraphs about the case in *Truth*, and the conditions would not drop until the police were scared into a wholesome sense of the rights of "subjects" and the limitations of their own powers.

The second reason, which after all is perhaps only a variation of the first one, why police abuses cannot flourish in England is that there are juries and courts are always on the side of those whose personal liberty is infringed.

In matters affecting personal liberty and dignity does the American public lack solidarity?

Mayor Dunne's Ordeal.

MAYOR EDWARD F. DUNNE of Chicago was called before a gathering of embattled municipal ownership advocates Tuesday and put through a civil service examination in his specialty, from which he emerged considerably shaken. Mr. DUNNE has found it impossible up to date to put the city in possession of any operating street car lines. The men who voted him into office want to know the reason for his delay. Three months and more have passed since he entered office, and the pie counter is not open yet. The best he has been able to do has been to suggest that Chicago philanthropists put up \$25,000,000, buy a railroad and let trustees named by the government run it. Neither the advocates of municipal ownership nor the philanthropists are wildly enthusiastic over this plan. At Tuesday's session the examining board put these questions to the Mayor:

"Who will control the five trustees, the city or the capitalists?"

"Is it not a fact that the financiers putting up \$25,000,000 will insist on controlling and naming the board?"

"Is your plan, Mr. Mayor, municipal ownership merely a variation of former Mayor HARRISON's tentative offer?"

Hard questions for the badgered Mayor. Chicago knows its capitalists, and the capitalists know Chicago. They are not likely to lie awake nights scraping up \$25,000,000 for HINKY DINK and BATH HOUSE JOHN to administer. The Hon. CARTER HARRISON grins at Mayor DUNNE's plan, and points to similar proposals made by himself years ago. Mr. HARRISON did not label his suggestion "immediate municipal ownership," and he can afford to smile. Mayor DUNNE is not a smile, and he is less

inclined to be jolly now than ever before. He has to suppress the report made by JAMES DALRYMPLE, and he has to soothe the radicals who are demanding immediate action, and who fear that he has "betrayed" them. At present Mr. DUNNE deserves respectful sympathy, but his plight is not so bad as would be that of the taxpayers of Chicago had he been able to fulfill his campaign promises of "immediate municipal ownership."

Col. BRYAN laments the state of the nation. As he walks abroad he sees thousands of employees on their way to the factories. They actually have to work for their living. Can you call that prosperity? demands Col. BRYAN. Not a thousandth of the answer. Col. BRYAN has cause for sorrow. Work is an abhorrent thing. Col. BRYAN and many other philosophers were not unhappy until the time comes when the Money Devil does all the work and the rest of us spend the time in deprecatory criticism of his best efforts.

A Missouri judge, in Kansas City, has fined a delinquent Missourian \$1.50 for having weeds on the sidewalk in front of his residence. The defense of the Missourian was that a sunflower was not a weed. A flower in Kansas but a weed in Missouri, decided the Kansas City Judge. There is in this decision, from which appeal has been taken, an almost contemptuous disregard of the State flower of Kansas. It is a sunflower, and the only State in its preference for the sunflower. But six States have adopted flowers as emblematic of their growth or aspirations, and Kansas is one of these. The other States which have acted by their Legislatures in this manner are Louisiana, which adopted the magnolia; Texas the blue bonnet; Arkansas the apple blossom, California the poppy, and Ohio, the sixth, has a statute which makes the scarlet carnation the official flower of the Buckeye State, replacing the goldenrod, formerly the favorite flower in Ohio, as it is of Missouri.

Is a sunflower a weed or a flower? A higher tribunal in Missouri must decide.

Mr. FAIRBANKS stood upon his carriage passed—*The News from Ogdensburg.*

Out of compassion for the planets. Mr. FAIRBANKS's far reaching brow penetrates to the midst of the firmament. Where he looks up at night with a clear vision he would block the stars in their courses. He uncovers because he does not wish to disfigure the heavenly bodies. He is the chief protector and best friend of the present solar system, which has his full, free and unqualified approval and indorsement.

London's Breathing Spots.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Representative Sullivan has just discovered London, and another result of his visit is that he tells us that the poor cannot afford to go eight miles out of the metropolis, as even that distance would cost them 20 cents, and that the names with respect to their poor, Richmond and Margate. Unlike New York, London is far from the sea. Except in winter, daily excursions run to seaside resorts like Brighton, Margate and Ramsgate, but the poor cannot afford to go. The New Yorker gets to any real seaside resort like Ashbury Park and back for less than three cents.

The fare to Richmond, New York, is four cents, and 12 cents or 16 cents round trip takes you any day to the Crystal Palace or Alexandra Park, and the right to get on the train or to take the electric car. To Hampshire Heath by car is four cents, and 12 cents or 16 cents round trip takes you any day to the Crystal Palace or Alexandra Park, and the right to get on the train or to take the electric car. To Hampshire Heath by car is four cents, and 12 cents or 16 cents round trip takes you any day to the Crystal Palace or Alexandra Park, and the right to get on the train or to take the electric car.

NEWARK, Aug. 19.

Justifiable Cause of an Up-State Visitor.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: What is the reason that so many of the streets of New York are without names? It is very trying to the patience of persons unacquainted with the city to find out the names of the streets. To a country bumpkin like the writer it is most embarrassing. One likes to stop people on the sidewalk to ask them for guidance, and the policeman or holiday crowd result in City Jail. A few hundreds more of those little blue and white signs would not be a great expense and would give a world of comfort to the weary wanderer in your great city.

Hence I ask you in the name of the Prohibition party, the W. C. T. U., the International Highball Club to give this matter the powerful aid of *The Sun* and the *Advertiser* and the *World* to get the complicated matter which mope around trying to find out their whereabouts. FRANK GOKET, OGDENSBURG, Aug. 22.

For the Naturalization of the Irish Gulls.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I was surprised and pleased on a recent trip to Scotland to be greeted on touching the Irish shore by hundreds of gulls. They surrounded our steamer, and to all bird lovers on board seemed to be giving us a welcome.

I noticed that they were only about half the size of our New York bay gulls, with black or brown heads, gray backs and legs, and that they would be decidedly an improvement on our gulls, and I wonder that some Americanized son of Scotia or Ireland does not bring over a few pairs and put them on the fall or winter among our North River birds.

I noticed also hundreds of them in the fields both in Ireland and England. GEORGE ROXBOROUGH, NEWARK, Aug. 22.

The Kansas Dips and the Wine Wet Ships.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Would the temperance people of Kansas, who seem to think that every ship that is laden with champagne is "hot" in its color and rigged with curses. If it is summering at Ansbury Park and an attack were made upon the place by some menhaden fisherman hauling long lines on board the good ship, the Kansas Dips, in those sea and land battleships just because she had been baptized with the juice of the "sun kissed" grape?

ATLANTIC CITY, Aug. 21. QUEDWUOC.

Wants a Darker Skin.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Will you please inform me regarding something to darken the skin of a white person? I am a white person, and I want to be a darker color. How can I do this? I am a white person, and I want to be a darker color. How can I do this? I am a white person, and I want to be a darker color. How can I do this?

NEW YORK, Aug. 22.

The Gal in the Fountain.

The supreme and blazing question of all Crackerland is this: "Is the 'Gal in the Fountain' in Hole Smith's barroom in the Piedmont Hotel, Atlanta, a Venus or a Bacchante?"—*The Sun*, Aug. 22.

Does she sport the red Chianti or a wine that's sugar burned?

Or is she just the lovely one, the Venus Aphrodite, who has been in Neptune's waves and never wore a nightie?

Hushed is the hark of Holocene Smith. The moon has struck a snag.

Hushed is the neigh of Pegaseus, hitched to the Stanton drag.

Quiescent is the aliphatic that was towing Holocene.

For the Gal that's in the Fountain is a cryin': "Glimpse me!"

The Loves of Atlanta displays Apollo shape. He swears, by hypocriteus she wears a wreath of grape.

But the Artists down in Brunswick rise up and say: "We're here!"

The Gal she's just a wearin' Fulton county muscadine."

But the Gal that's in the Fountain just stares a bronzy stare.

And says: "I thought you fellows was a little sporty. Where is all 'so'n'thin' chivalry?"—a tear bedimmed her eyes.

"I wish y'd buy me somethin'—I'm a-gettin' awful dry!"

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22. E. P.

TERRORISM IN POLAND.

WARSAW, Poland, Aug. 4.—The present generation has never seen a time when the people of Russia were so racked as they are to-day by private financial difficulties, intense anxiety and even terrorism. The overwhelming misfortunes of the war seem to have paralyzed the Czar's Government. Law and order have ceased to exist in large districts. Thousands of the landed gentry who have never known what privation meant find it difficult to raise a ruble to pay their ordinary expenses. Money can be borrowed only at ruinous rates. The appalling wickedness is intensified here in Poland by the fact that armed bands of robbers are traveling here and there levying forced tribute upon estates on the pretense that they are agents of the revolutionary propaganda which purposes to reestablish the independence of Russian Poland.

The newspapers are printing stories of these outrages, and many facts illustrating the intense fear, anxiety and distrust which two years ago would have been thought impossible. The *Sun* correspondent will mention here two incidents illustrating the present state of lawlessness and terrorism. He selects these two because he is able to supplement one of them by facts that are known to all the residents of Bielsotok, where he has spent several days; in the other affair a family with which he is intimate are the victims.

Bielsotok, on the railroad from Warsaw to Moscow, is a small town of 1,000 inhabitants of Poland, being surrounded only by a few other cities in population and commercial importance. The state of terrorism to which it has been reduced by the events of the last few months is illustrated by the following curious incident which a correspondent of the *Varshavskii Dnielik* (*Warsaw Daily*) sends from Bielsotok. I translate it literally:

"I was a passenger in a street car this morning. As we were going to the city, the car was crowded. At one of the corners a police commissioner entered the car. About half the passengers left the car at the next corner. By the time we got to the corner where the police commissioner was the police commissioner, the driver, conductor and myself. I asked the conductor what was the matter."

"Oh," he replied, "the police commissioner is on the proscribed list. He's had his notice that he will soon go on a journey to the other world. Everybody in Bielsotok knows it and everybody is afraid of him. He is a very bad man. It happens to be near the commissioner."

No one who has recently been in Bielsotok has any doubt of the accuracy of this statement. The proscribed list numbers several scores of persons, and the disasters behind the movement have taken the trouble to make the list public. Their desire to create a state of complete terrorism has fully succeeded.

The threats were not empty—there was grim business behind them. The *Sun* correspondent about two weeks ago the news that the new chief of police of Bielsotok had been mortally wounded by a bomb. About twenty other unfortunate who were not proscribed but happened to be near the marked man were killed or wounded by the explosion. Several other police officials and a number of ordinary policemen had been previously murdered on the proscribed list.

The unfortunate man who employed the street car so speedily in having the experience of his fellow sufferers he is shunned by the entire populace. If he enters a barber shop no one will shave him until a police guard is placed at the door. Cabmen flee from him. His friends dare not talk with him in the street. One of the proscribed living in the suburbs has a fine well in his yard from which the neighbors have been permitted to draw water for many years. The well is no longer patronized, for every one fears it may be poisoned.

Observers at a distance may wonder why the police do not root out the criminals and put an end to them. They do not understand the conditions. Terrorism is in the air; the law is paralyzed. It is the criminals and not the sworn defenders of the law who are boldfaced and stout-kneed. Why do they proclaim the crimes they intend to commit? It is because they invite conflict with the authorities, they wish to be hunted; they depend upon opposition to swell their ranks and to bring on the full tide of outlawry, communism and revolution they are trying to precipitate.

The other incident is only one of a large number of the kind. Four weeks ago several armed men presented themselves at a small country estate a little south of Vilna and demanded 100 rubles. They said they were agents for the revolutionary propaganda at Vilna and were raising funds for the cause. Their written message was carried to the proprietor, who said he would give them 50 rubles instead of 100. He was so excited that the family feared they would all be murdered if he were permitted to deal with the fellows. His wife finally went out to see them.

She asked them on what authority they demanded the money. They said on the authority of the revolutionary committee. She protested, the paper they presented bore no seal or other mark of legitimacy. No, unfortunately, there had been so many documents to stamp and this one had somehow been overlooked. But they wanted the money and intended to get it one way or another. What guarantee was there that no further demand upon the family would be made? Their word of honor? She would receive a receipt for the money tomorrow.

Well, the men had guns and threatened murder. The lady paid the money. It was a case of plain holdup, but there was no redress. The facts were reported to the police, but nothing was done. This occurred in one of the most densely populated parts of Russia and one of the finest agricultural districts of the empire.

It is any wonder that many families are leaving their estates and taking refuge in Warsaw and Vilna and that far more are crossing over to Germany to wait for better times? As for revolution, the Poles want none of it. But if present conditions are a forerunner of coming anarchy almost anything would be preferable to it.

Great Fire in London Predicted.

From the *St. James Gazette*. "When the new year comes, there will be another great fire, attended by loss of life, to the city of London. This is the prophecy which Edward Atkinson made to one of our reporters."

As regards the mechanical appliances employed by the London Fire Brigade, Mr. Atkinson gave it as his opinion that we are far behind the United States. "Your appliances are very old-fashioned," he said. "I read of your having an engine which can throw a jet of 300 gallons a minute, but that is not enough. I have not seen a single standpipe in any street here. In America the standpipes run to the highest floor of the loftiest building, and are so constructed that the engine on its arrival can be connected without a minute's delay. No hose is needed, and water is thrown on to every floor. We do not have, as you do, a few sets of water thrown from the ground level."

The Soft Answer.

Mother—What, at the jam again? Aren't you old enough to know better?

Tommy—No, there ain't any better in town.

The September Number of Country Life in America.

The September number of *Country Life in America* contains interesting and fully illustrated articles on the elk, on building a camp, on singling honey bees and on making farming pay in Connecticut.

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WASHINGTON, Aug. 22.

THE BRIGHT STAR OF ZANZIBAR.

As It Approaches New York Reminiscences of Its Wearer Are Evoked.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The Hon. Mason Mitchell, United States Consul at Zanzibar, as all readers of *The Sun* know, is making remarkable preparations to be enthusiastically received on his arrival in New York. His letters to you calling attention to the fact that he is the admirer of all less worthy and less conspicuous diplomats.

In view of the coming event it has seemed to me that the citizens of the country in whose service Mr. Mitchell has labored in Zanzibar should know more of this remarkable person, all too dimly described by your title "Bright Star of Zanzibar." It was my pleasure and my duty to travel as a newspaper correspondent with Consul Mitchell in the New York State campaign of 1898. Mr. Roosevelt, who is now also serving the nation as President, went through the campaign with Mr. Mitchell. Some notes in my diary bear upon the little minutiae of Mr. Mitchell's life in that momentous campaign which are always of interest in considering the upward progress of our great men. It was also my fortune to meet him three years later at Oyster Bay. The diary mentions that he was then in the city.

Oct. 17 (1898), CLARK FALLS. . . . One Mason Mitchell, said to be an actor, but apparently a hero, butted in to-day as we were going through the Albany station. He was in plain clothes, but went in his washroom to our room and came out in new R. Rider clothes. Interviewed him. He said: "I was on my way to New York, but when I saw my Colonel going to battle I had to follow. Any soldier who has been in the English language for me." Says he has been urged to make speeches. Spends most time in Colonel's car. Rather a calm and haughty position; doesn't seem to care to get into it himself. The rest of the R. Rider bunch, who are much better, but apparently a hero, butted in to-day as we were going through the Albany station. He was in plain clothes, but went in his washroom to our room and came out in new R. Rider clothes. Interviewed him. He said: "I was on my way to New York, but when I saw my Colonel going to battle I had to follow. Any soldier who has been in the English language for me." Says he has been urged to make speeches. Spends most time in Colonel's car. Rather a calm and haughty position; doesn't seem to care to get into it himself. The rest of the R. Rider bunch, who are much better, but apparently a hero, butted in to-day as we were going through the Albany station. He was in plain clothes, but went in his washroom to our room and came out in new R. Rider clothes. Interviewed him. He said: "I was on my way to New York, but when I saw my Colonel going to battle I had to follow. Any soldier who has been in the English language for me." Says he has been urged to make speeches. Spends most time in Colonel's car. Rather a calm and haughty position; doesn't seem to care to get into it himself. The rest of the R. Rider bunch, who are much better, but apparently a hero, butted in to-day as we were going through the Albany station